Exemption of Senior Citizens from filing Income Tax returns

†1526. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would exempt those pensioners above the age of 70 years from filing Income Tax returns who have no other source of income; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Government has introduced a simplified return form for tax payers who do not have income from business or profession, capital gains or agriculture. Therefore, it is not necessary to exempt pensioners above the age of 70 years from filing income tax returns.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Impact of Excise Duty on LPG Cylinder

1527. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal or request made by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to his Ministry for a change in the excise duty structure so that Government need not increase the price of domestic LPG cylinder;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) what action his Ministry has taken on the proposal sent by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) for supply to household domestic consumers is exempted from both customs as well as excise duty.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Aid to Andhra Pradesh to fill Financial Gap

1528. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has offered help to Andhra Pradesh to fill the financial gap encountered by Government in implementing its ambitious programme of constructing a large number of irrigation projects;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.